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ON THE OCCURRENCE IN THE SPECTRUM OF *Nova Cygni* OF THE MOVING DOUBLET NEAR Hδ

The presence in the spectrum of *Nova Cygni* No. 3 of the remarkable pair of dark lines lying on the more refrangible side of the Hδ line, which had been found by Plaskett[1] and by Paddock[2] in the spectrum of *Nova Aquilae* (3), was referred to in a previous note[3]. Among other peculiarities of behavior which the pair developed in *Nova Aquilae* was an irregular movement back and forth along the spectrum. The purpose of the present note is to call attention to its similar restlessness in the spectrum of *Nova Cygni*. The lines are first certainly recognizable in that spectrum on a plate of September 14, which shows them as hazy bands in approximate positions 4064 and 4070A. On subsequent dates their relative positions were as follows:

Sept. 16. . . . same as on Sept. 14.
" 18. . . . slightly displaced toward violet.
" 19. . . . same as on Sept. 14.
" 21. . . . displaced toward red.
" 29. . . . displaced toward violet.

The extreme positions were those of September 21 and 29, when the wave-lengths were:

September 21	September 29
4065.2	4062.2
71.2	68.1

A total range of 3A is shown by the measures. This is less than the variation found in *Nova Aquilae*, but establishes quite certainly the inconstancy of position. On the last two dates the lines were among the strongest in the spectrum and were easily measurable. The positions of the other absorption lines changed very little during the interval.

The identity of the pair with the enhanced nitrogen doublet 4097.4–4103.4 has been suggested by Baxandall[4]. On the basis of this identification the displacements of September 21 and 29 were −32.2 and −35.2A, respectively. In the casual examination of the plates thus far undertaken no other displacements of like amount have been encountered. The displacements of the hydrogen and some of the metallic lines are given in the previous note.

W. H. WRIGHT.

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[1] *Journ. R. A. S. Canada*, **12**, 350, 1918.
[2] *Publ. A. S. P.*, **31**, 54, 1919.
[3] *Ibid* **32**, 275, 1920.
[4] *Publ. A. S. P.*, **31**, 297, 1919.

WARNING TO ASTRONOMERS AND OTHERS

Inquiries have come to me from various parts of the United States concerning the relations of Dr. Augustus Fischer to the Lick Observatory. It appears that Fischer has been asking for financial assistance upon the basis of the alleged fact that he was for many years an astronomer in the Lick Observatory and, in certain cases, that he was acting in accordance with my suggestions. As a warning I would say that Dr. Augustus Fischer is wholly unknown to me. No person of this or similar name has ever been connected with the Lick Observatory.

W. W. C.